

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1063

Introduced by Assembly Member Aanestad

February 25, 1999

An act to amend Section 3502.1 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to physician assistants.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1063, as introduced, Aanestad. Physician assistants: drugs.

Existing law, the Physician Assistant Practice Act, provides that a physician assistant may, while under the supervision of a licensed physician and surgeon or physicians and surgeons approved by the board, administer or provide medication to a patient, or transmit orally, or in writing on a patient's record or in a transmittal order, a prescription from his or her supervising physician and surgeon to a person who may lawfully furnish the medication or medical device, as specified.

This bill would make a technical, nonsubstantive change to this provision.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 3502.1 of the Business and
2 Professions Code is amended to read:

1 3502.1. (a) In addition to the services authorized in
2 the regulations adopted by the board, and except as
3 prohibited by Section 3502, while under the supervision
4 of a licensed physician and surgeon or physicians and
5 surgeons approved by the board, a physician assistant
6 may administer or provide medication to a patient, or
7 transmit orally, or in writing on a patient's record or in a
8 transmittal order, a prescription from ~~his or her~~ *the*
9 supervising physician and surgeon to a person who may
10 lawfully furnish the medication or medical device
11 pursuant to subdivisions (b) and (c).

12 (1) A supervising physician and surgeon who
13 delegates prescription transmittal authority to a
14 physician assistant may limit this authority by specifying
15 the manner in which the physician assistant may transmit
16 prescriptions.

17 (2) Each supervising physician and surgeon who
18 delegates prescription transmittal authority shall first
19 prepare and adopt, or adopt, a written, practice specific,
20 formulary and protocols that specify all criteria for the use
21 of a particular drug or device, and any contraindications
22 for the selection. The drugs listed shall constitute the
23 formulary and shall include only drugs that are
24 appropriate for use in the type of practice engaged in by
25 the supervising physician and surgeon. When
26 transmitting an order, the physician assistant is acting on
27 behalf of and as an agent for a supervising physician and
28 surgeon.

29 (b) The supervising physician and surgeon's
30 prescription for any patient cared for by the physician
31 assistant that is transmitted by the physician assistant shall
32 be based on either an order given by a supervising
33 physician and surgeon for a particular patient, or on the
34 protocols described in subdivision (a).

35 (1) A physician assistant shall not administer or
36 provide a drug or transmit a prescription for a drug other
37 than for a drug listed in the formulary without an order
38 from a supervising physician and surgeon for the
39 particular patient. At the direction and under the
40 supervision of a physician and surgeon, a physician

1 assistant may hand to a patient of the supervising
2 physician and surgeon a properly labeled prescription
3 drug prepackaged by a physician and surgeon,
4 manufacturer as defined in the Pharmacy Law, or a
5 pharmacist.

6 (2) A physician assistant may not administer, provide
7 or transmit a prescription for Schedule II through
8 Schedule V controlled substances without an order by a
9 supervising physician and surgeon for the particular
10 patient.

11 (3) Any prescription transmitted by a physician
12 assistant shall be subject to a reasonable quantitative
13 limitation consistent with customary medical practice in
14 the supervising physician and surgeon's practice.

15 (c) A transmittal order issued pursuant to subdivision
16 (a) shall contain the printed name, address, and phone
17 number of the supervising physician and surgeon, the
18 printed or stamped name and license number of the
19 physician assistant, and the signature of the physician
20 assistant. The requirements of this subdivision may be
21 met through stamping or otherwise imprinting on the
22 supervising physician and surgeon's prescription blank to
23 show the name and license number of the physician
24 assistant, and shall be signed by the physician assistant.
25 When transmitting an order, the physician assistant is
26 acting on behalf of and as an agent for a supervising
27 physician and surgeon.

28 (d) The medical record of any patient cared for by a
29 physician assistant for whom the supervising physician
30 and surgeon's prescription has been transmitted or
31 carried out shall be reviewed and countersigned and
32 dated by a supervising physician and surgeon within
33 seven days.

